

The DX Bulletin

• America's Oldest Weekly Amateur Radio Publication •

ISSUE 290 JUNE 14, 1985

PROPAGATION: (Extended forecasts): Jun 13, 14, Disturbed; Jun 15, Low Normal; Jun 16, High Normal; Jun 17, 18, Low Normal; Jun 19-21, Disturbed; Jun 22, Low/Below Normal; Jun 23, Low Normal; Jun 24, High Normal; Jun 25, Disturbed; Jun 26, High Normal; Jun 27, High/Low Normal; Jun 28, High Normal. TNX N4XX.

Flux (81)	Flux (82)	Flux (83)	Flux (84)	Date	Flux (85)	Alpha (85)	K (85)
179	140	128	108	6/2	80	8	2
174	131	133	108	6/3	73	8	2
177	130	135	107	6/4	75	8	2
177	132	145	104	6/5	82	10	1
167	137	167	102	6/6	85	21	4

NOTES

*June is Ramadan for Moslems, hence the increased activity from the Middle East. Fasting increases the desire to sit in one place, often in front of the radio.

*DXAC is now voting, for the third time, on possible country status for the Pribilof Islands.

*DXNS says G3OKQ/MM is on his way to Pitcairn and will be there for about 5 months as a voluntary worker; his call will be VR6JR and he will operate from VR6TC's station. While enroute, he has a schedule with VR6TC daily on 14.180 at 0200Z.

*8J1XPO is at Japan's Tsukuba Expo '85, from now until Sept. Word is that visiting amateurs may operate the station without special permission from the Japanese authorities.

*Brazil's annual fire prevention week Jun 30 to Jul 6 will feature several ZV2 callsigns on CW, SSB, and RTTY.

*Look for the P29JS net on 14.220 at 0600Z the next couple of months, when conditions should pick up from North America to the Pacific; Jim promises to have late information on an upcoming Midway operation by WH6O this month or next. It's fun, in an odd sort of way, to listen to Jim and other stations in the Pacific work stuff that you can't hear.

*French hams raised a stink about their new callsign structure, and as a result those with First Class licenses can eliminate the "E" from their call; i.e., FE9RM can go back to signing F9RM again, etc.

*JX3EN has now left Jan Mayen and was reportedly the only operator there. Next operation maybe this fall.

*F6APG, who used to be FB8XX, confirms he will be on the Antarctic continent later this year (about November) and sign FB8YY...unfortunately, this will not count as Kerguelen.

*Westlink Report quotes a letter from 4X5AT, president of the Israel Amateur Radio Club, regarding visiting operators. As you know, the U.S.S.R. prohibits amateurs from working 4X4 stations, but it is OK for them to work a visitor signing /4X4. The Israelis find this embarrassing, and ask that visitors refrain from working Russians, at least until the Soviets allow their amateurs to work all Israeli stations.

*King Hussein of Jordan will be 50 in November, and JYs are expected to be using "50" in their callsigns instead of the usual number. Dates to be announced later.

*The Associated Press carried an obituary on W6AM, which a few papers around the country picked up. Technically speaking, Don did not work "them all," having missed one way back when. W1GKK, at 367, can say he has them all. W6AM will stay on the Honor Roll at 366 for many years to come.

*An award will be available commemorating the the 40th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations charter, for working two of the "UN" suffixed stations during 1985 (4U1s UN, ITU, VIC). The award will cost \$5, or 15 IRCs, of which \$4 will be donated to the U.N. Children's fund (UNICEF). We suppose this will be tax-deductible. Send to Un Staff Recreation Council, ARC, UN, Room DCI-0724, PO BOX 20, NY NY 10017 USA.

*Finally...AEA loaned us a DR. DX last fall, but we could not find a working Commodore 64 to try it on. We found it very discouraging to have a piece of ham radio software that could be used on only one computer. Now it has happened again, as N2UN has loaned us one of his new, faster, computerized DX Edge diskettes. We simply don't know anybody who has a Commodore computer.

The one thing we found mildly interesting about Dr. DX was programming it to simulate operating from the other side of the world; we guess there's a little Walter Mitty in all of us. As for the viewable DX Edge, we would like to place ourselves in Outer Mongolia and take a look at the gray line.

Five years ago in The DX Bulletin

(June 9, 1980): VK9CCT was operating occasionally from Cocos-Keeling, when military business took him there. KP2A scheduled CR9 as his last stop while in the Far East. K5LBU/STO was operating phone only from S. Sudan, and 6T1YP, the setup by several Finns, was first heard from the Children's Youth Palace in the S. Sudan. DXAC advice on whether or not to keep Okino Torishima on the DXCC list was expected momentarily, as was their opinion on the politically-touchy South African "homelands." K5YY was DXAC chairman. Despite plenty of sunspots, 10 and 15 were in the doldrums, as Bandpass showed.

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DX ONE SUNSPOT CYCLE AGO

(Another in a very occasional series)

(SPRING/SUMMER, 1974): Faithful readers will recall that the writer had moved east from Indiana in the summer of 1973. We proceeded to learn about propagation from a location less than 200 miles from the Atlantic Ocean with a Classic 33 at 40 feet and a couple of low dipoles.

It didn't take long for the thrill of S9 Europeans on 40 and even 80 to wear thin.

Having missed the previous sunspot maximum, we had no experience other than with lousy band conditions.

As the low bands got noisy in late April, 20 came alive, just as it has the past month or so. We brought only about 200 countries with us from Indiana. Things were more complicated in those days, with DXCC Rule 9. We were starting over on DXCC from a new call area.

We worked almost exclusively CW and 20 produced hordes of Asiatic Russians every night in May, this with merely a low tribander in a very poor location. 15 had openings a few days, and we worked Africans and occasionally a ZL or two around 0100Z. An interesting contact was CT2AK on 15 at 0149Z May 29, 1974; obviously multi-hop Sporadic E. 15 disintegrated by month's end. The only 28 MHz entries we find are sporadic E to the midwest.

FCC came to the rescue in May, 1974, offering special "ITU" callsigns to virtually anyone who asked for one. We used KJ1ITU from May 11 to 19 and made 2,900 contacts, of which 2500 were on 20 Meters. About half of them were DX.

Some interesting openings occurred during the summer, openings which are already appearing eleven years later...FR7ZL/Tromelin showed at 0400Z Jun 7. On Jun 9, a terrific 15 Meter opening to Europe lasted from 1500 to 1700Z. We worked "ZA3ZP" on Jun 18...but 11 years later we still need a legitimate ZA! The California group showed from Palmyra and we worked them easily, but when they came on for the first amateur operation from Kingman Reef (KP6KR), we went away empty handed. Our location was OK eastbound but we were blocked to the west.

However, July produced good late evening openings to the Pacific on both 15 and 20, with occasional strong signals out of Fiji, the Cooks, and elsewhere, around 0100Z on 15 and 0700Z on 20.

The bad news is that conditions went from fair to pretty terrible through July and August, 1974, and our old logbook shows it. We expect the next two months or so to be good for laying new (more) radials for your low-band antennas, sending your radio back for a tune-up, and fishing.

The good news is that, on Sept 1, 1974, we moved to another, much better, location, with better antennas, just as the bands were picking up. Check out: VR4BS (20), XW8FN (20), 5V7WT (20), FB8ZD (20), 4W1GM (15), and more.

And, finally...the great October, 1974 opening. On Oct 4, we worked 4W1GM at 2052Z on 15 meters, followed immediately by ZL3KA. We moved up to 10 meters and caught ZL3JO, 5X5 both ways, at 2127Z. Back down to 15 for JH2UVL at 2205, 559 both ways. 30 minutes later, JA7OWB was also 559, and then the run was on! The opening lasted two hours and we worked over 200 JAs on 15, with a few VKs and ZLs thrown in for good measure. The band opened exactly the same on the 5th, and then it was over.

But I want you to know that during Oct and Nov 11 years ago, both 15 and even 10 had life in them...we worked Africans on 10, and lots of good stuff everywhere on 15. The openings were brief...you had to be there and be quick. One night we worked JTOAE on 15 at 0130Z. So China could be workable on 15 this fall, among other things.

The next installment in this series will be on what the low bands were doing in the winter of 1974/75. To be honest, the low bands this past winter were phenomenal, better than anyone can remember, and they promise to be the same this year, experts tell us.

HOLD IT! STOP RIGHT THERE!

What about two sunspot cycles ago? You had to ask.

Back then, we were learning how to operate by working the CW traffic nets every night, with an Eico 720 and Drake 2B. For crying out loud, nobody could have worked DX in 1963!



People were still using AM transmitters, and there weren't any personal computers. DX nets? No way. Lists? Only in the rarest of circumstances.

In the 1963 ARRL International DX Competition, we made 36 contacts in 9 hours, but the Indiana section winner only made 109 contacts...in two weekends. Phone scores in those days were only a fraction of the CW tallies.

But some things never change...the top ten scorers in the DX 'Test were all well east of the Mississippi. Poor conditions were hurting the west coast much more than the rest of the country, especially as the low bands were becoming important. It only took 30 multipliers to make the listings on 80 Meters...nowadays, you can work 30 countries on 80 in the first two hours of the Contest (well, at least from W1 you can).

Perhaps the most telling statistics are in the Honor Roll. In October, 1963, the top spot on the mixed Honor Roll, 309, was occupied by two people, W1FH and PY2CK. There were 72 people total on the mixed Honor Roll, and only 20 on the Phone Honor Roll. Today, two sunspot cycles later, 290 people occupy the top spot on the mixed list, and 1468 are listed altogether. On Phone, the comparison is even more striking...81 people have confirmed all 315, and 661 calls are on the phone Honor Roll.

20

3V8PS 14227 2154 24 TX
 4S7CF 14152 0107 28 MA
 4X4FR 14167 0303 20 MA
 4Z4DX 14025 0100 31 MI
 5B4JK 14016 1747 26 MA
 5B4LP 14206 1910 30 MA
 5N1/N5CJB 14246 2030 2 OH
 5T5RD 14008 2256 2 FL
 5Z4MX 14028 2340 26 MA
 6W1JN 14168 1844 2 MA
 6Y5SG 14034 0119 1 FL
 7X2BK 14153 0139 29 MA
 7X2BK 14189 0142 6 MA
 7X2HM 14194 2350 28 CA
 7X2HM 14200 2217 1 MA
 7X2LS 14174 0054 3 MA
 7X2MB 14002 2305 2 FL
 8Q7AV 14180 0205 29 MA
 9G1HT 14211 2310 23 CA
 9H1GI 14197 2208 1 MD
 9H1GI 14197 2214 1 MA
 9K2YA 14182 2125 29 MA
 9L1SL 14151 1916 1 MA
 9M2HB 14227 1455 31 MA
 9M2MM 14227 1636 27 MD
 9M2MT 14176 1535 27 MD
 9M2SS 14199 1313 29 TX
 9M8BB 14002 2250 2 FL
 9M8EN 14227 1700 31 CA
 9U5JB 14177 1800 2 MA
 9V1TL 14227 1601 27 MD
 9V1TL 14227 1500 27 CA
 9V1TL 14226 1500 27 IL
 9Y4NW 14023 0107 1 FL
 A4XKB 14214 0245 29 MA
 A4XKB 14214 0251 29 WY
 A4XKF 14174 2000 29 MA
 A4XRS 14165 1840 29 MA
 A92DT 14246 0213 29 MA
 A92P 14224 0300 29 MA
 A92P 14226 0504 24 CA
 AP2AU 14177 0105 6 MA
 AP2MQ 14176 0100 6 MA
 AP2MQ 14186 1710 20 MA
 AP2MQ 14196 0230 28 MA
 AP2SQ 14194 0202 30 WY
 BTONMN 14004 1500 24 CA
 BY1QH 14164 1217 25 IL
 BY1QH 14175 1245 25 OH
 BY1QH 14196 1945 25 MA
 BY1QH 14226 1545 30 MA
 BY1QH 14226 1147 29 TX
 BY1QH 14230 1345 29 TX
 BY1SK(?) 14029 1230 31 AL
 BY5RA 14227 2300 28 CA
 C31LBB 14027 0212 5 GA
 CE0FFD 14005 0130 4 FL
 CO7RG 14230 1149 1 MD
 DU1/G4DUW 14028 1200 29 MI
 DU1DBT 14179 1150 29 OH
 DU1MEL 14190 1300 27 MD
 DU7/N7ET 14028 1405 29 MA
 DU7TRX 14204 1240 27 MA
 EA6DI 14007 2139 29 FL
 EA6MQ 14182 K2050 1 NH
 EA6NB 14052 2158 3 FL
 EA8ABQ 14069 1009 30 GA
 EA8BEX 14034 1144 1 GA
 EA9MY 14017 2338 2 FL
 FG5XC 14028 1257 1 GA

FK0AE 14200 0610 31 MA
 FM5DJ 14049 1152 1 GA
 FO8GJ 14158 0228 1 MA
 FP4CJ 14157 1915 29 MA
 FT8XB 14191 0900 28 MA
 GU4XEA 14045 2149 29 FL
 HC1QRC 14041 2159 28 FL
 HI3PC 14020 2136 29 FL
 HK0BKX 14018 2308 30 AL
 HL1CG 14031 1257 4 MA
 HL1FJ 14010 1240 5 MA
 HL4XM 14022 1149 31 GA
 HL9AA 14199 1407 29 TX
 HL9JM 14021 1215 31 AL
 HP1XKR 14016 2310 29 FL
 HP1XZB 14015 0146 29 FL
 ISOWJS 14016 2150 3 FL
 J87BS 14213 0220 30 CA
 JD1/JH5ESS 14022 1215 21 MA
 JT1AO 14200 1210 21 MA
 JT1AO 14227 1505 31 MA
 JT1AO 14226 1515 31 CA
 JT1AO 14227 1505 24 CA
 JT1BG 14227 1523 24 CA
 JT1KAI 14180 0147 28 MA
 JW5NM 14180 0347 28 IL
 JY6ZZ 14205 1945 29 MA
 JY9MG 14200 2228 1 MA
 JY9WR 14026 1855 28 MA
 JY9WR 14029 2030 31 MA
 JY9WR 14026 1950 28 MA
 KX6DS 14030 0355 28 MA
 LX/PA3BUD 14055 2224 28 FL
 OD5DA 14203 0930 28 MA
 OD5NT 14223 0157 31 WY
 OD5NT 14223 0029 24 TX
 OD5NT 14238 0122 3 MA
 OD5YU 14200 2242 1 MA
 OX3LX 14024 2127 29 FL
 OX30A 14033 2153 29 FL
 OX30A 14033 2145 29 MA
 OX30A 14035 2140 1 MA
 OX3UD 14038 1145 28 MA
 P29JP 14187 1217 27 MD
 P29JS 14029 1220 28 MA
 P22AC 14023 0116 31 FL
 RA9FEC 14206 1720 23 CA
 SU1ER 14235 2325 4 MA
 SV9/DF3FJ 14016 2050 29 MA
 SV9CS 14045 2055 28 MA
 T77C 14029 2204 28 FL
 TA1A 14025 2300 21 MA
 TA1A 14026 2136 31 FL
 TA1A 14026 2157 27 MA
 TA1D 14018 0058 31 FL
 TA1E 14223 2217 29 MA
 TA1E 14224 2300 26 MA
 TA2BK 14027 0140 29 FL
 TF5BW 14268 0134 29 MA
 TF5EP 14201 0258 28 MD
 TG9XHQ 14010 2353 2 FL
 TI0RC 14002 2246 2 FL
 TI8ZWW 14028 2248 28 FL
 TR8DR 14200 2117 3 MA
 TZ6FE 14171 0125 2 MA
 UB4IWL 14223 1955 29 CA
 UD6DZ 14173 0310 29 MA
 UF6CX 14015 2132 3 FL
 UF6FDR 14023 0116 31 FL
 UI8OAE 14034 0127 29 MA
 UI8OAE 14029 0054 29 MI
 UL7BAW 14002 2333 30 AL
 UL7BN 14020 0100 28 MI
 UL7BX 14024 0033 30 MI
 UL7BX 14031 0143 30 WY
 UL7FCG 14027 0200 4 FL
 UL8BWA 14160 0157 28 MA
 UL8BWB 14028 0132 29 FL
 UL8BWB 14028 0102 29 MI
 UL8PWW 14038 0153 29 FL
 UM8MBA 14016 0140 29 MI
 UO5OKR 14022 2129 29 FL
 UQ1GXT 14049 0953 30 GA
 UW3HY/1 14015 0111 1 FL
 UW3HY/1 14014 0202 1 MA
 UW3HY/1 14025 1015 30 MA
 UW3HY/1 14025 1450 24 CA
 UW3HY/1 14017 2337 30 AL
 UW3HY/1 14023 12125 21 MA
 UW3HY/1 14035 2140 27 MA
 UZ2FEX 14037 2152 29 FL
 UZ2FWZ 14016 2126 31 FL
 UZ9AWZ 14026 1638 28 MI
 UZ9AWZ 14012 2353 28 MI
 V2AO 14243 2340 23 CA
 V85HG 14171 1325 29 TX
 VE8DX 14200 2026 25 OH
 VE8SB 14021 0108 1 FL
 VK0GC 14309 0352 5 WA
 VQ9YR 14227 1642 27 MD
 VQ9YR 14227 1605 31 MA
 VQ9YR 14227 1540 29 CA
 VQ9YR 14225 1515 27 CA
 VR6TC 14161 0249 28 MD
 VR6TC 14180 0245 30 MA
 VR6TC 14180 1745 24 CA
 VS6CT 14225 1201 24 IL
 VS6DT 14020 1354 29 MI
 VS6DT 14029 1220 30 MA
 VS6DT 14032 1155 3 MA
 VS6DT 14030 1150 30 AL
 VS6DX 14227 1438 28 NH
 VU2CK 14185 0139 29 MA
 VU2GI 14172 0130 29 MA
 VU2GI 14189 0135 2 MA
 VU2GI 14183 0244 29 MA
 VU2GI 14234 0230 1 WY
 VU2ISV 14027 0210 5 GA
 vu2jdg 14030 0140 5 IL
 VU2JDQ 14012 0144 3 FL
 VU2JDQ 14033 0140 30 WY
 VU2KAJ 14152 0135 28 MA
 VU2MAC 14190 0110 28 TX
 XT2BS 14168 1837 2 MA
 YB0BZZ 14227 1515 28 CA
 YB2BNJ 14033 1105 3 OH
 YB9ARN 14252 1245 1 MD
 YK/OE3HGB 14177 0116 2 MD
 YN1CC 14029 0037 30 GA
 Z21FN 14041 1247 1 GA
 ZC4AB 14227 2111 23 CA
 ZC4AB 14240 2144 27 MD
 ZC4ESB 14023 1645 3 MA
 ZD8LJ 14198 1810 28 MA
 ZL2AJ 14015 0215 27 MI
 ZP5AO 14010 2309 2 FL

CP8HD 1842 0255 4 NH
 HB9G 1833 0210 2 MA
 LU8DPM 1842 0255 4 NH
 UB5ZAL 1834 0210 2 MA
 ZP5JCY 1842 0255 4 NH

7X2LS 3796 0108 27 MA
 ZL4AV 3790 1009 27 NH

3B9CD 7004 0250 2 MA
 4K1F 7002 0700 26 MA
 (S SHETLANDS)
 7TTC 7055 0015 29 MA
 CO2JY 7008 1030 29 AL
 FK8FF 7004 1028 29 AL
 HZ1HZ 7007 0213 3 MA
 JD1/JH5ESS 7006 0940 28 MA
 KG6SL 7190 1133 30 WY
 PJ4/W5ASP 7002 1100 29 AL
 SV0DV/9 7001 0300 31 MA
 T77C 7002 0500 28 MA
 TA1C 7022 0200 21 MA
 TA1D 7002 0119 3 MA
 UL7CAD 7006 2320 1 MA
 UL7CAD 7003 2323 4 MA
 UO5OF 7005 0141 3 MA
 VK3EW 7198 1020 27 NH

5ZRDU 21320 1901 27 MD
 EA8ABR 21028 2139 3 FL

KEY TO BANDPASS:
 Callsign;
 Frequency;
 UTC;
 day of month;
 state.

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 REPORT FORMS AND
 ENVELOPES; mail
 them to TDXB
 anytime, or phone:

203-742-7124

(24 hours).

CALENDAR

FAROES By 0Z5UR, 0Z5DL, ends about now
 MAURITANIA 5T5MS until July; no reports
 MIDWAY By WH60 soon; check P29JS net
 CAMBODIA XU1SS rumored on again; no reports
 CHAD G3KQ1 rumored there in May, July

RAMADAN Now; lots of Middle East activity
 PREFIX G0/KOVV from England Jun 15-Jul 14
 AUSTRALIA Can use "VI" prefixes until December
 GUINEA DL7AH/3X probably gone; need QSL info
 UGANDA By KC7UU possible soon; I285
 5X5BD license rumored good

8J1XPO Japan expo through Sept I290
 PITCAIRN DXPress says ZL4DW/VR6AB there for
 next two months, Saturday best
 G3OKQ on his way (I290)
 BRAZIL Calls for fire prevention Jun 30-Jul 6

CRETE SV0DV/9 (WOPU) until December
 RHODES SV0AH is there, does not use /5
 FRANZ JOSEF UA1OT, UW3HY/1, and E01AOK all active

CHINA BY5RA with W7PHO 14.227/0000Z; Issue 287
 BY1QH almost daily 14.227 at 2300Z.
 No info on BT0NM, active on 20 CW
 ST BRANDON Rumors of a 3B7CD operation soon by 3B8CD.
 RODRIGUES 3B9CD leaves this month

S SHETLANDS 4K1F there on 40, 20 CW;
 CYPRUS RAF bases DXCC credit Jun 1; I274
 MOZAMBIQUE C90A active, no DXCC credit; Issue 281
 UGANDA 5X5GK active, no DXCC credit
 GUINEA-BISSAU J5WAD active on 20 only

MACQUARIE VK0GC likes 75 SSB at 1000Z; on 20, too
 RHODES K7VAY/SV5 Jun/Jul, CW
 VATICAN Rumored by I5FLN, I8AA end of June
 S GEORGIA And S. Sandwich later this year; I284
 ANTARCTICA FT8YY confirmed, Nov, NOT Kerguelen

CONTEST All Asia Phone Jun 15,16
 "CONTEST" ARRL Field Day Jun 22,23

NEW BAND 24 MHz opens for U.S. Jun 22; I287

CONTRIBUTORS

KA1BU, K1KTB, W4VQ, KM1E, PT2ADV, KA1XN,
 K9UIY, K6IR, K1XM, K1MEM, K4BAI, N1ACH,
 W6BJI, W8CT, KB8KW, AB8K, N4NO, W1CYB,
 W4BAA, W1AX, WD5AAM, N5HI, KM9J, W0IRR,
 KA0CDN, K0CVD, K8GG, P29JS, N2UN.

REPORT FROM PAPUA NEW GUINEA

--de Jim Smith, P29JS

"Band conditions continue to be poor to poorer but there are some surprise openings never the less. 10 Meters continues to provide some good openings and some good QSOs. An example of this was TR8JLD on the 14.220 net mentioned that he was hearing the VS6 beacon on 10 Meters at S9. I asked if there was a VS6 on frequency and Paul, VS6DO answered. They QSY'ed to 28.595 and worked each other at S9+ both ways.

"What worries me about 10 Meters at this time is the takeover by the JA CBers. It used to be the odd infringement at the low end of the band. Now they extend to above 28.595 and are still going (higher). Their carriers and jargon are solid here in P.N.G. and they all seem to be in multiple QSOs.

"When the sunspot cycle improves they will have tremendous signals. Once again, there will be a repeat of the situation of a few years ago - the DXing CBer. While I have no big objection to what they do in their own band, I take exception to the present 10 Meter takeover. In a year or so the amateurs will be fighting for a spot on a band they have a legal entitlement to."

JIM SMITH, P29JS

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